



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

New River Gorge NR
Gauley River NRA
Bluestone NSR

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New River Gorge National River - Public Notice

To: Commercial Outfitters & Private River Users

From: Gary Hartley, Chief Ranger

Date: 10/17/07

For the safety of both spectators and jumpers on Bridge Day 2007, the National Park Service is asking the commercial outfitters and private river users to refrain from stopping their boats between the private boater ramp at Fayette Station and Flea Flicker Rapids.

For viewing purposes, the NPS asks that all trips remain above the private boater ramp on river left and marker rock on river right, or below Flea Flicker rapid.

Please be considerate of other outfitters and limit the viewing time in these eddies to fifteen minutes or less. **If you are planning on serving your guest lunch in view of the Bridge Day BASE jumping, please do so above Fayette Station rapid or below Flea Flicker rapid.**

For trips proceeding downstream, please do so expeditiously and remain as far river right as possible. Be aware of your surroundings. Look up!

This year we have a high number of BASE jumpers registered for the event, For example, in 1999 there were approximately 300 BASE jumpers registered and this year the BASE organizer is attempting to register 450 jumpers with an addition 50 staff jumpers. We are expecting close to 500 BASE jumpers. National standards call for an increase in the size of a parachute landing area as the number and frequency of parachute landings increases. The BASE jumpers have identified the surface of the river, as described above, a landing zone for this event.

As many of you are aware, several BASE jumpers have made hard landings in this section of the river and along its banks. In addition, the river is significantly lower this year compared to years past. This situation will increase congestion as the BASE jumper's water rescue boats and the EMS boats attempt to maneuver in a diminished pool of water. Your cooperation in getting your guests and boats through the landing zone as efficiently and safely as possible is greatly appreciated.

The National Park Service considers visitor safety a priority. Your cooperation in providing a safe environment is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact Chief Ranger Gary Hartley at (304) 465-0508 ext. 218.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



Bridge Day 2007

